

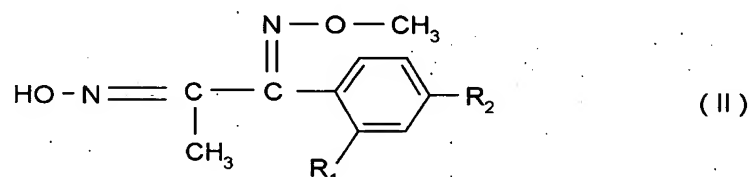
AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

--PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF STROBILURIN INTERMEDIATES

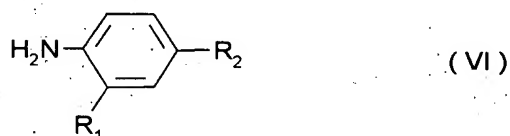
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to a process for preparing oximes of formula II

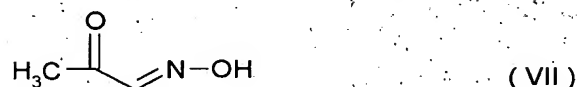


in which R₁ is hydrogen, fluoro or chloro, and R₂ is methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, cyano, fluoro, chloro or bromo, by

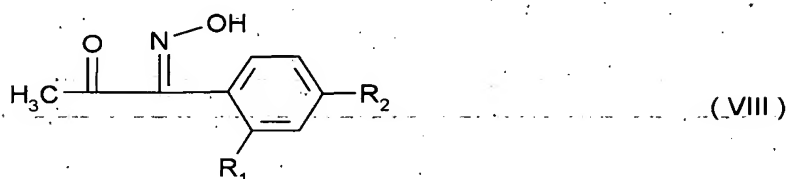
- (a) diazotizing an aniline of formula VI



- (b) reacting the resulting diazonium salt with methylglyoxal-1-oxime of formula VII

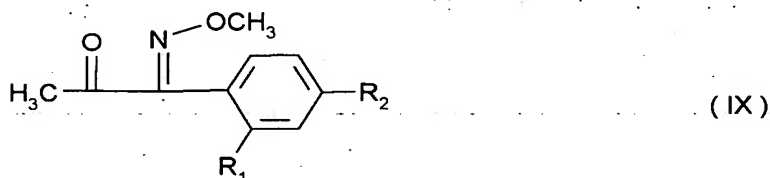


- (c) methylating the resulting ketooxime of formula VIII



with a methylating agent, and

- (d) reacting the resulting O-methyl ketooxime of formula IX



with hydroxylamine.--